

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Material to be inserted is in underline, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[]]. Any cancellations are without prejudice.

1. (Currently amended) An extrusion die having at least one flexible lip element (1,2) for discharging extruded material from a gap-(S), the flow cross section of which can be modified, ~~characterized in that~~wherein at least one flexible lip element (2) can be moved relative to the other lip element (1) by means of a plurality of jointly actuatable lever elements-(8).
2. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the flexible lip element (2) has a tapered flexural region (7.2) between an exit region (6.2) and a die body-(4.2), the plurality of jointly actuatable lever elements (8) being situated between the exit region (6.2) and the die body-(4.2).
3. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~wherein on one end the plurality of lever elements (8) is mounted in a groove (10) in the exit region-(6.2), and on the other end pivotably engages with a slide (11) in the die body (4.2) or a retaining element (13) associated therewith, the slide (11) being supported with respect to the die body (4) and/or the retaining element-(13).
4. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to Claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the slide (11) can be moved back and forth linearly in an X direction.
5. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to Claim 3 ~~or 4~~, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the slide (11) can be moved back and forth in an X direction by means of an actuating element-(16).

6. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to Claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the actuating element (16) is designed as a manually actuatable drive device, in particular a screw thread or spindle.

7. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to Claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the actuating element (16) is designed as a geared element, servomotor, electromechanical drive device, hydraulic cylinder, or the like.

8. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to ~~at least one of Claim[[s]] 3 through 7, characterized in that~~wherein the slide (11) is mounted in a recess (12) in the die body (4,2) or a retaining element (13) thereof.

9. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the slide (11) in the recess (12) is supported by a plurality of needle roller bearing elements (14, 15), ~~in particular needle roller bearings.~~

10. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to ~~at least one of Claim[[s]] 3 through 9, characterized in that~~wherein the slide (11) can be linearly moved, and under pushing or pulling loads is supported by a plurality of bearing elements (14, 15).

11. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to ~~at least one of Claim[[s]] 4 through 10, characterized in that~~wherein a gap height (SH) of the flow cross section between the respective oppositely situated lip elements (1, 2) may be modified by a linear motion of the slide (11) in the X direction as the result of pivoting of the lever elements (8) about an angle (α).

12. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to ~~at least one of Claim[[s]] 4 through 11, characterized in that~~wherein a plurality of lever elements (8) adjacently situated in parallel are pivotably mounted at one end in the flexible lip element (2), and at the other end are mounted in the slide (11) at a uniform distance from one another, the slide element (11) being supported

and mounted so as to be linearly movable in the X direction with respect to the die body (4.2) or a retaining element-(13).

13. (Currently amended) The extrusion die according to ~~at least one of Claim[[s]] 1 through 12, characterized in that~~wherein the other flexible lip element (1) has a plurality of actuators (3) running over the entire width in order to adjust the flexible lip element (1) between an exit region (6.1), a tapered region-(7.1), and a die body (4.1) over the width as a function of the location, for setting a parallel, uniform gap-(S).